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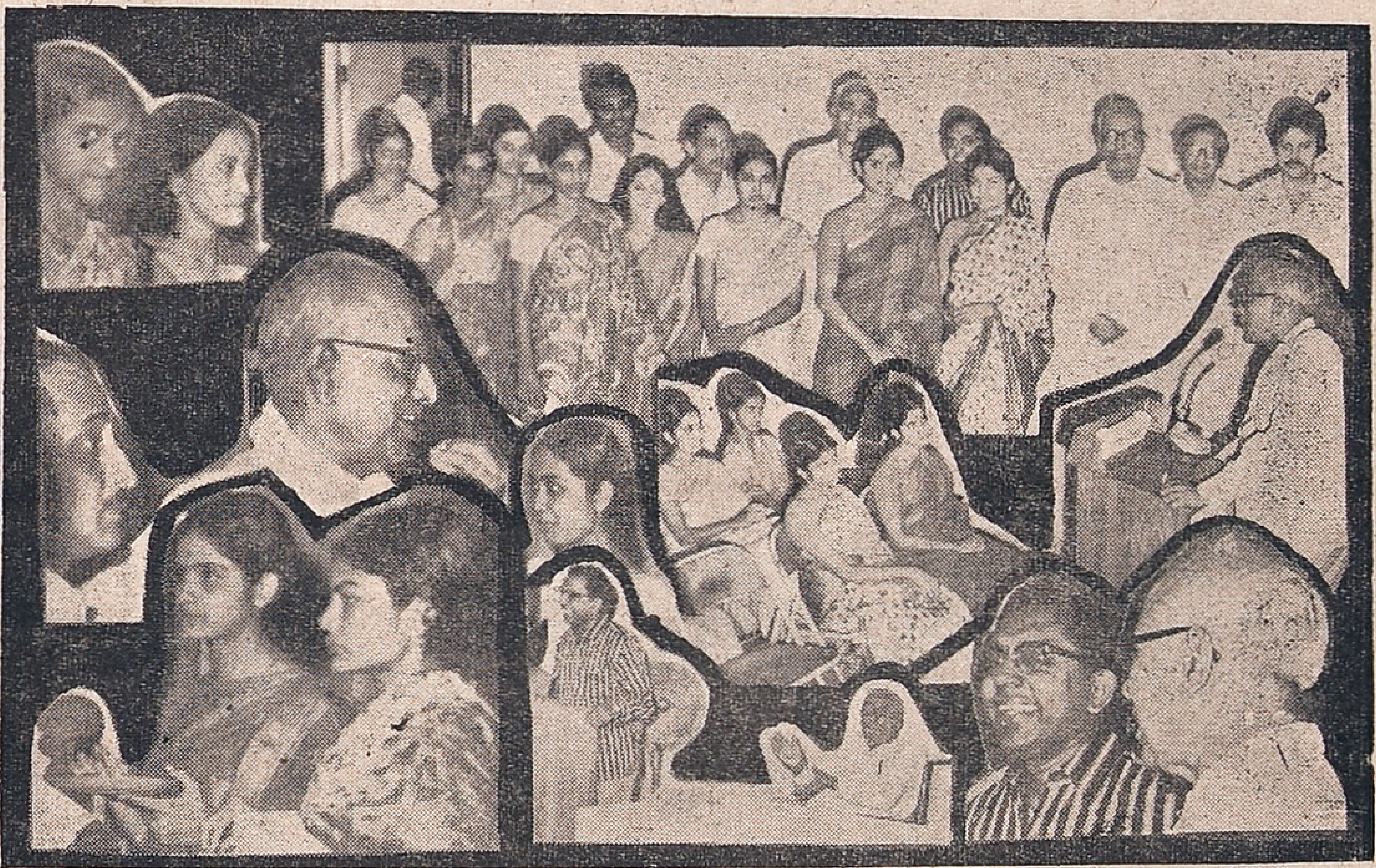
Fifty Eighth Anniversary Of The October Socialist Revolution —Feature



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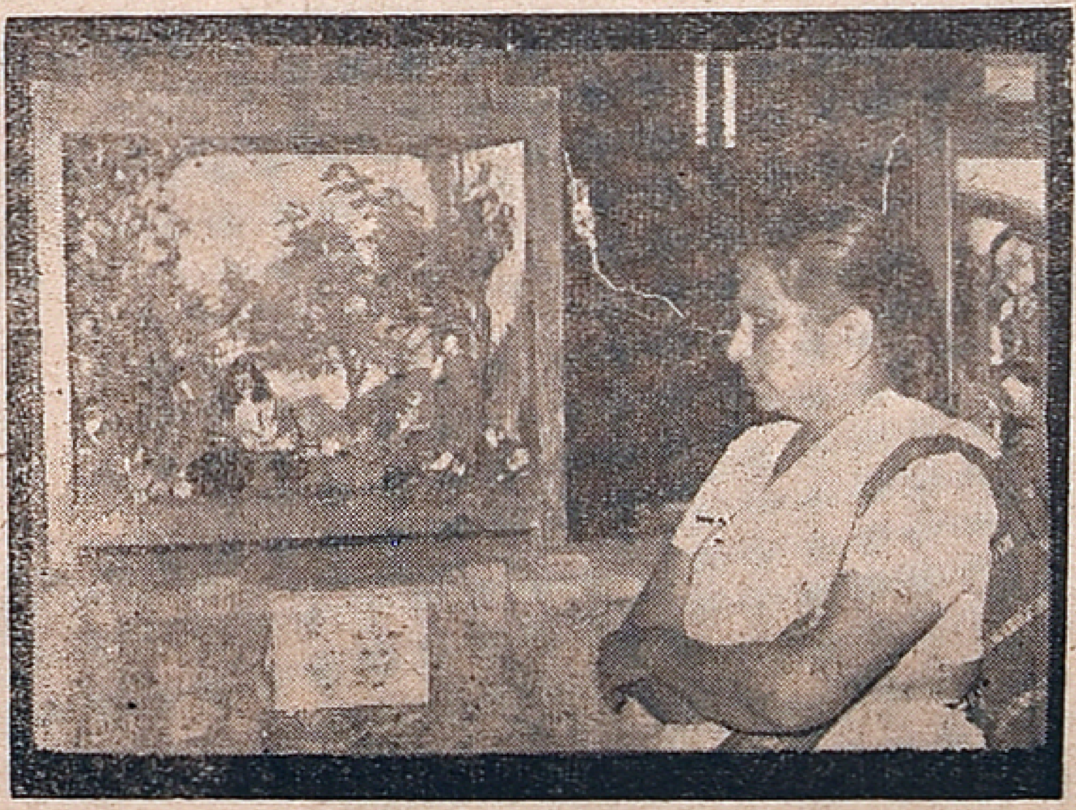
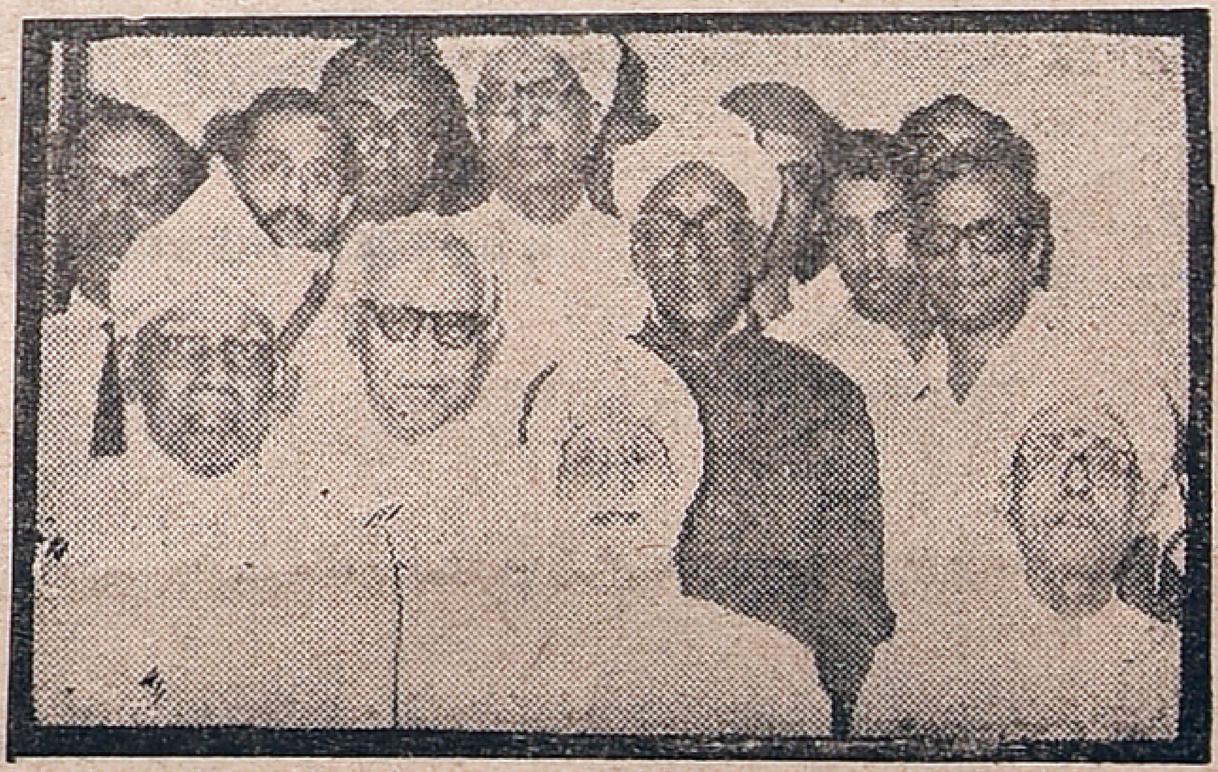
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Madras —A Report





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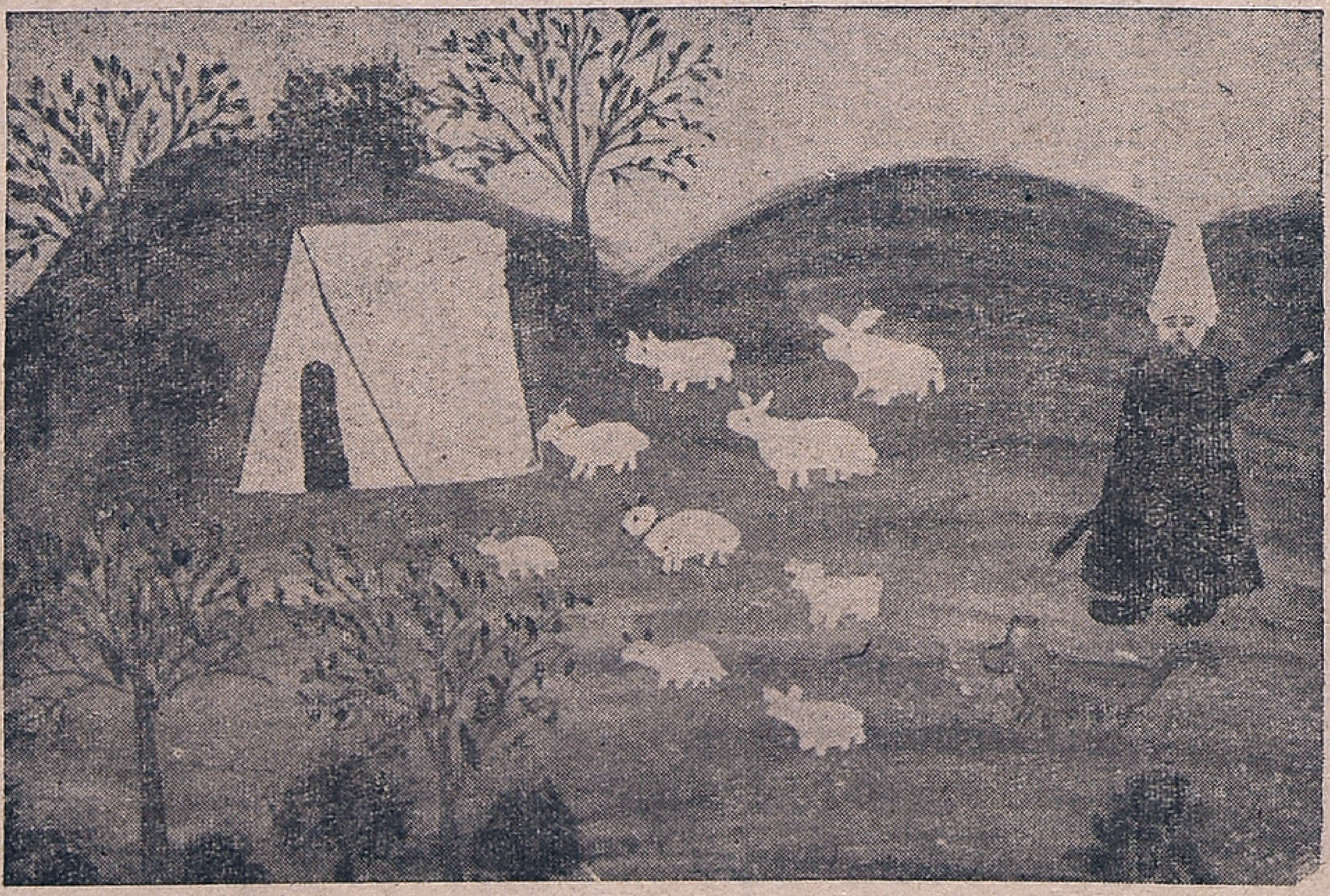
SOUTH INDIA'S FINEST PICTORIAL WEEKLY

Eight-year-old artist Maka Kitovani.



A drawing by six year-old Tamila Kalandia.

Cultivating Love of Beauty

BY IYA MESKHI

Salome, A Five-Year-Old Georgian girl, sat drawing the ever-popular Red Riding-Hood. She dipped her brush into some red paint and produced a blot not unlike a beret. Under the blot she drew a blue oval form—the face, and inside that—two huge brown eyes, then two little braids sticking out from under the beret, and finally a light-blue blouse and a red polka-dot skirt......

Little did Salome imagine that her Red Riding-Hood would wind up in a museum. Even less, that it would appear on invitation cards to the museum with the caption: "Pay us a visit! Our address is: The Museum of Children's Art, No. 36, Lenin Street, Tbilisi."

The year the museum opened (1974), Salome was already feeling embarrassed by her early drawings. Yet she was not grown up enough to look at them with curiosity.

It is hard to say what she will become when she is grown up enough to look at them with curiosity.

It is hard to say what she will become when she grows up—a painter or an engineer, a physician or a

(Contd. on page 11)

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The Indian Parliament - Its Growth And Achivement

INDIA became independent on August 15, 1947. The Constitution of Free India came into force on January 26, 1950. Republican and Federal in character, the Constitution provides broadly for a parliamentary form of government based on universal adult franchise and the accountability of the executive to the elected representative of the people. The Parliament represents all constitutionally organised shades of public opinion at the national level and occupies a pre-eminent and pivotal position in the constitutional set up of the country. It has over the years secured a unique place in the esteem and affections of the people as the forum through which they articulate and realise their aspirations and ventilate their grievances and difficulties. Among many great achievements of free India the successful working of the Parliamentary democracy is notable.

OUR HERITAGE

Democracy and democratic institutions are not new to this country. People had a long tradition of freedom and tolerance towards differing views, creeds and ways of life. Democratic institutions like popular assemblies, and elected monarchies had been existence in our country as early as Vedic period (3000 1000 BC). In the later period of over 16 centuries (1000 BC to 600 AD) republican form of government flourished in many parts of the country. Popular assemblies like the Samiti (meeting together of people) and the Sabha, a smaller and selected body of elders, had been functioning more or less as the Parliament for disposing of public business by debate and discussion. Besides the Samiti and the Sabha, democracy at the grass roots had thrived in the country since centuries in the form of Gram Sabhas or village assemblies. These village republics survived through many dynasties and the downfall of empires. The country is rich in democratic traditions and the democratic temper of Indian people has enabled the adoption of parliamentary from of government in modern times.

CHEQUERED GROWTH

The growth of parliamentary institution in the country had been chequered. In more modern times, the British introduced reforms as a step for establishing contact with public opinion. Under the Indian Council Act of 1861, some important concessions were made by the British. Improvements in the original Council Act of 1861 in subsequent years reflected themselves in the growing demand and the maturity of people of India for self government in the country. Landmarks in the parliamentary history of the country were the Indian Council Act of 1892, Minto-Morley Reforms Act 1909 and the Montague-Chelmsford Reform Act (The Government of India Act), 1919.

The first legislative assembly under the Government of India Act 1919 came into being at the Centre in 1921. The reforms establishing reponsible government in the Provinces, did not introduce any element of responsibility at the Centre, but these proved totally inadequate to meet the popular demand for responsible government and national opinion gathered momentum for a fully sovereign Parliament and Government responsible to it. After a number of round Table Conferences, held in London, the Government of India Bill was introduced providing for the establishing of federation of India, uniting the Governor Provinces of what was then known as British India and the Princely States then known as British India and the Princely States then known as Indian States. The resulting enactment, the Government of India Act, 1935, also introduced Provincial Autonomy. The system could be described as a Parliamentary system of the "controlled type". Federal legislature, under the Act was bicameral and consisted of a Council of State and the Federal Assembly called the Central Legislative Assembly. Defence and External affairs were reserved subjects and were administered with the help and advice of an executive Council responsible to the legislature. The experiment served as a training ground for parliamentary democracy in the country and familiarised Indian legislatures with various elements of the modern parliamentary procedure.

AFTER WORLD WAR II

After the end of the Second World War, fresh negotiations with Indian National leaders were initiated by the then Labour Government in Britain and the British Government accepted India's right to decide her own destiny. Under the Cabinet Mission's plan of May 16, 1946 a Constituent Assembly of India was formed for framing the Constitution of the country. The Assembly, although constituted on the basis of indirect elections, was indeed a truly representative and a most impressive body consisting as it did of many of the foremost leaders of the country's freedom struggle, eminent jurists, constitutionalists and other distinguished men and women in the country's public life. With the partition of the country into India and Pakistan, the Constituent Assembly became a fully sovereign body. It also assumed full

(Cont. on page 10)

CONQUEST

By Dr. E. GILBERT

How falsely I Live
For I have not understood
That today's joyous paths
Are tommorow's roads
That lead to destruction.

If I could unrobe
My pretending garments
I would see my Life
Crawling on my insensitive skin
And then drop in shame.

A moment is procious!
If I turn my eyes towards
The righteous one
I'll gain many moments
Of joy peace and Love.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

History is replete with instances of men who by dying with courage and compassion on their lips converted the hearts of their violent opponents.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Nov. 9, 1975.

EDUCATION—2000 A. D.

What is going to happen to our education system after 2000 A. D.?

A seminar is to be held in the city shortly to chalk out a plan for the twenty first century.

This only reminds us of the story of a young boy who was keeping a tortoise to see if it lives for 1000 years.

Ours is a peculiar country. Ordinary economic laws don't operate as in other countries. Our statistics are inadequate to prepare and execute even ordinary plans.

A month of scarcity is immediately followed by a month of glut, in essential commodities also. Our plan requirements of technically qualified people run into millions. But we see the unemployment of the educated—highly educated—on a large scale.

Elementary education has not spread as fast as it should have. This slow progress in turn affects spread of modern techniques in agriculture. Illiterate peasants find it difficult to follow the advisory services properly.

The experts who will be meeting in the city will do well to chalk out a plan for wiping out illetaracy, especially in rural areas immediately, and spread job-oriented higher education. This will help in the implementation of the Prime Minister's 20 point programme.

Will it not be wiser to leave the twenty-first century people to tackle their own problems?

Tit-Bits On Men And Matters

By T. NEELAKANTAN, (General Knowledge Agency)

GANDHIJI'S VISIT TO SHANTINIKETAN

Though Mahatma Gandhi and Gurudev Tagore had different views on some public affairs, they liked and respected each other. Round about the year 1922, Gurudev invited Gandhiji to visit Shantiniketan. As he had agreed to do so, adquate arrangements were made for his comfortable stay and the bed-room in the upstairs of the Guest House was decorated with simple things in a beautiful way.

On the day of his arrival, Gurudev asked his grand-daughter to bring his khadi gown. She enquired :" Why do you want a khadi gown today? You don't put on a khadi gown everyday?". To this Gurudev replied: " Dont you know, Mahatma Gandhi is coming. I am the host and he is going to be my guest. If a host should honour the guest, he must do such things as will please the guest most. So I am going to put on khadi".

Dressed in the khadi gown, Gurudev was waiting to receive Gandhiji. As soon as he came, Gurudev embraced him and asked him whether he had a comfortable journey. Gandhiji replied: "What does it matter. I was coming to meet you. That was the greatest happiness in my mind". Gurudev took him to the Guest House and showed him the bed-room meant for him. Seeing the well-decorated bed-room Gandhiji told his host: "Gurudev, this looks like a bridal chamber". Gurudev replied: "Yes, it is a bridal chamber". Then Gandhiji asked laughingly: "But where is the bride". Gurudev replied: "The bride we are offering you today, is the young bride of Shantiniketan". Gandhiji then said: "So, even a toothless old man like me can still get a bride". On hearing this, those around them had a hearty laugh.

On satisfying himself that everything was arranged well for Gahdhiji's stay, Gurudev went back to his place. As Gandhiji wanted to sleep in the open, the decorated cot was taken out and placed on the open terrace. He slept there. Next morning, Gurudev came to see Gandhiji. On seeing the dismantled decorations, which were made with much pain and care by the artists of Shantiniketan, Gurudev asked Gandhiji: "Now Mahatmaji! What has happened? What have you done with the bridal chamber and where is the bride?". Gandhiji laughingly said: "I told you I am a toothless old man, so the bride ran away. I have searched for her. She has gone and hid hers lf". Those who were there then, laughed loudly on hearing this. Thereafter, Gandhiji and Gurudev spent some time happily in conversation.

SRI C. L. METHA

India is such a homogeneous country that many families from the South have settled in the North and many from the North have settled in the South. Among such families, the Metha family is one. Late Sri Chandanmal Metha of Rajasthan came to Madras and settled here in 1910. His son Sri C. Lakmichand Metha, popularly known as C L. Metha, is an intelligent, active and enterprising businessman. Realising the need for the growth of industries in an agricultural country like ours, he took the initiative for the starting of industries. Even in starting the industries, he was judicious. Instead of starting industries for the manufacture of intoxicating liquors and the like, which ruin the health of many people, he started the Intrac Pharmaceuticals. This factory produces Penicillin and allied anti-biotics in large quantities, to relieve the sufferings of the sick. As he is deeply interested in the Drugs trade, he was elected as the Secretary of the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists and he is now doing his best to serve the public by improving the pharmaceutical business.

Sri Metha is not only interested in business and industries but also in social welfare activities. As one intimately connected with the Daya Sadan, the Jain Medical Relief Society, Sri Ramdev Mandal, the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, the S P. C. A., and other institutions, he did very good work. He served with sincerity as a member of the S. S. Jain Education Society; as the Secretary of the Sri Dhanraj Baid Jain College and as the Treasurer of the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, and his services in these institutions were highly appreciated. As the Secretary of the Tamil Chamber of Commerce for about 10 years and as a Hony. Presidency Magistrate for about 12 years, he earned a name for his devoted service. In recognition of his abilities and services, the authorities appointed him as a member of some Advisory Committees of the Government and his suggestions were very helpful to them. He is an ardent devotee of Sri Ramalingaswami and he is doing his best to propagate His teachings of human welfare and universal brotherhood.

ON THE COVER

Mr. M. V. Arunachalam, Vice-President, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, recently inaugurated the Communicator Club, at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Madras Kendra. The composite picture shows the Chief Guest Arunachalam, V. P. V Rajan, President of the Club, Hemamalini, Kalyanal, Kanthi, Mirinalini, Aditi De, Palaniappan, Vishnu Sarma, Dorothi Peter, Renuka, Padmini Devarajan, Viswanatha Iyer, Rajanikant Mehta, Ravichandran and Chitra Narayanaswami.

—Photos A. Arumugam

Bottom Left : This photograph was taken at the time of inauguration of Bhavan's School of Journalism. Sardar Ujjal Singh inaugurated.

Bottom Right : Mrs. N. Sarada Devi in front of one of her dolls. An exhibition of dolls made by her was held recently at the Bhavan.

New Metal Detector

FRISKEM ("frisk" them) is a walk-through metal detector that wards of weapons secretly carried by a person. The U. S. manufacturer, Infinetics Inc, in Wilmington, Delaware, suggests that FRISKEM could be used for airports, prisons, military facilities, industrial plants, banks, ware-houses, petro-refineries and other offices and installations that might be in danger of assault by an armed intruder.

One controller can direct persons walking through FRISKEM and watch for the alarm which signals that contraband is being carried. One man can assemble a FRISKEM in 30 minutes, using only a screwdriver and a wrench and one man can calibrate the electronics in only 10 minutes.

FRISKEM operates within a range of 90 to 250 volts.

Records

Lorenzo Herrera of Idaho Falls, U.S.A., claims that he has broken the world nonstop cooking record He stood over a hot stove for 100 hours adding four hours to the old record. Each hour he was allowed a five-minute rest. The last few hours he soaked his feet in salt water to ease fatigue from standing.

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan

THIRTY five years ago Kulapati K. M. Munshi founded the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan in Bombay to rehabilitate our culture and make it an active force in the lives of our countrymen.

The Bhavan is spreading the message of India's ageless culture through its various wings—educational institutions, book publication and its journal, The Bhavan's Journal.

The activities of the Bhavan have proved quite popular and there have been a growing demand for the establishment of its branches – Kendras – in different parts of the country and abroad.

Today the Bhavan has more than a score of Kendras in India and abroad.

Started in 1958, the Madras Kendra is playing an important role in the social life of the metropolitan city.

It frequently arranges interesting, instructive and informative seminars, get-togethers etc.

A number of useful courses – mostly professional – are conducted by the Madras Kendra of the Bhavan

Bhavan's College of Mass Communication was started in 1969, in Madras. Its honorary principal is Mr. V. P. V. Rajan, Editor of The Mail. It runs one year diploma courses in Journalism, Marketing and Advertising, Public Relations and Business Management.

The Madras Kendra has a nice airconditioned auditorium with a seating capacity for 650. Inaugurated in 1972 by the former President of India, Mr. V. V. Giri, it is let out to educational and cultural institutions apart from having Bhavan's own programmes.

The Bhavan's membership is swelling and it maintains the highest traditions and standards

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Mahabaratha In Dolls

One of the recent events that took place in the Bhavan's premises was an exhibition of dolls, conveying the story of the epic Mahabaratha, by Mrs Sarada Devi.

The dolls elegantly arrangep depicts the Mahabaratha story in 51 selected scenes. Even without the help of the recorded narration in English, Tamil and Telugu, one can see that the exhibits individually and together communicate the story with dramatic force.

The artist has blended the talents of doll creation costuming, theatre conception and arrangements appreciably.

Opening with the Sakuntala story, the exhibits proceed to the main theme narration.

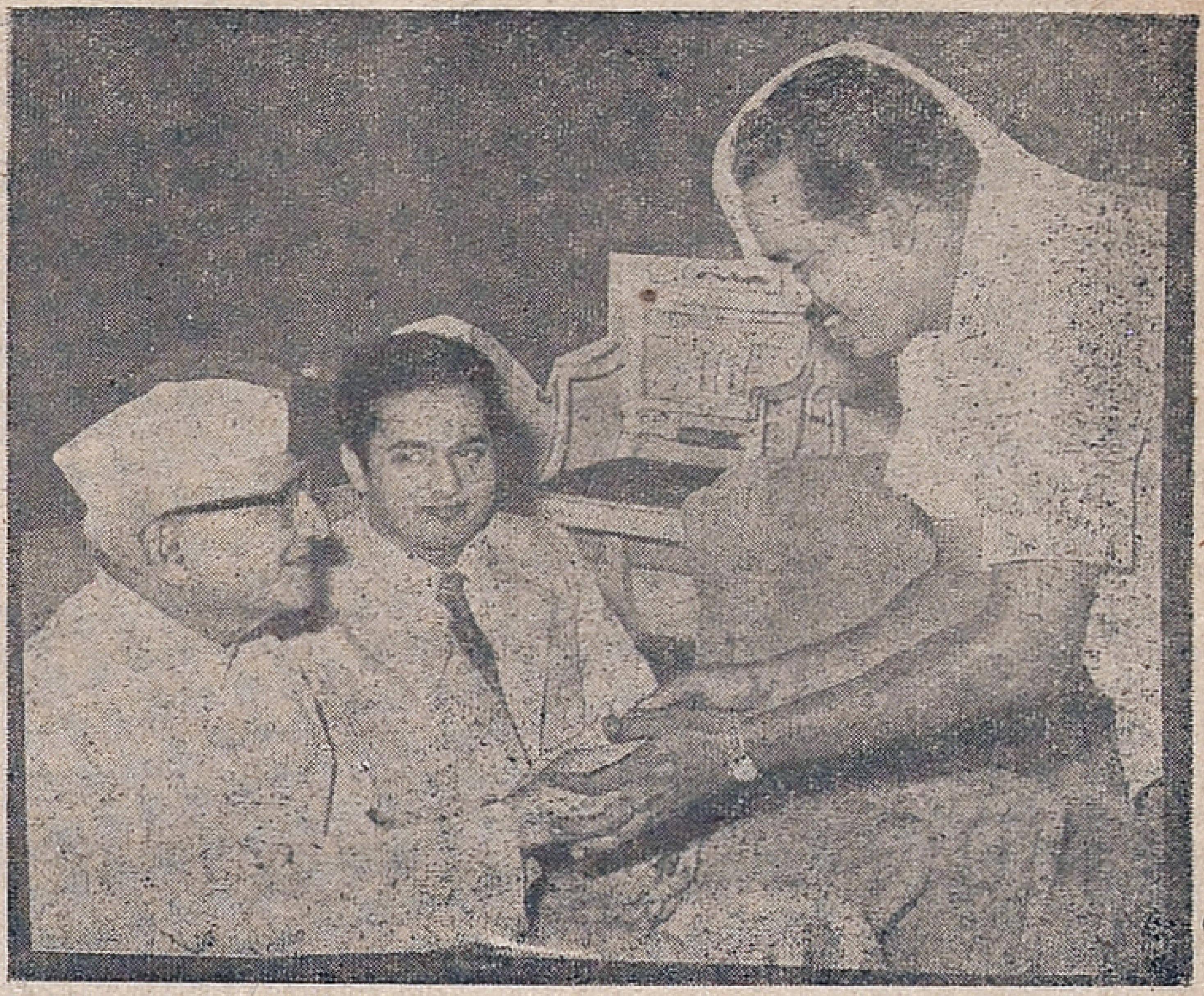
Some of the subtle artistic highlights include the illusion of the flowing river (in Kunti abandoning the child Karna) and of fire (in the House of lac).

The game of dice, Draupadhi-vastrapaharanam, Krishna's meditation, his Viswarupa, Gitopadesa and the battle scenes have much life in them.

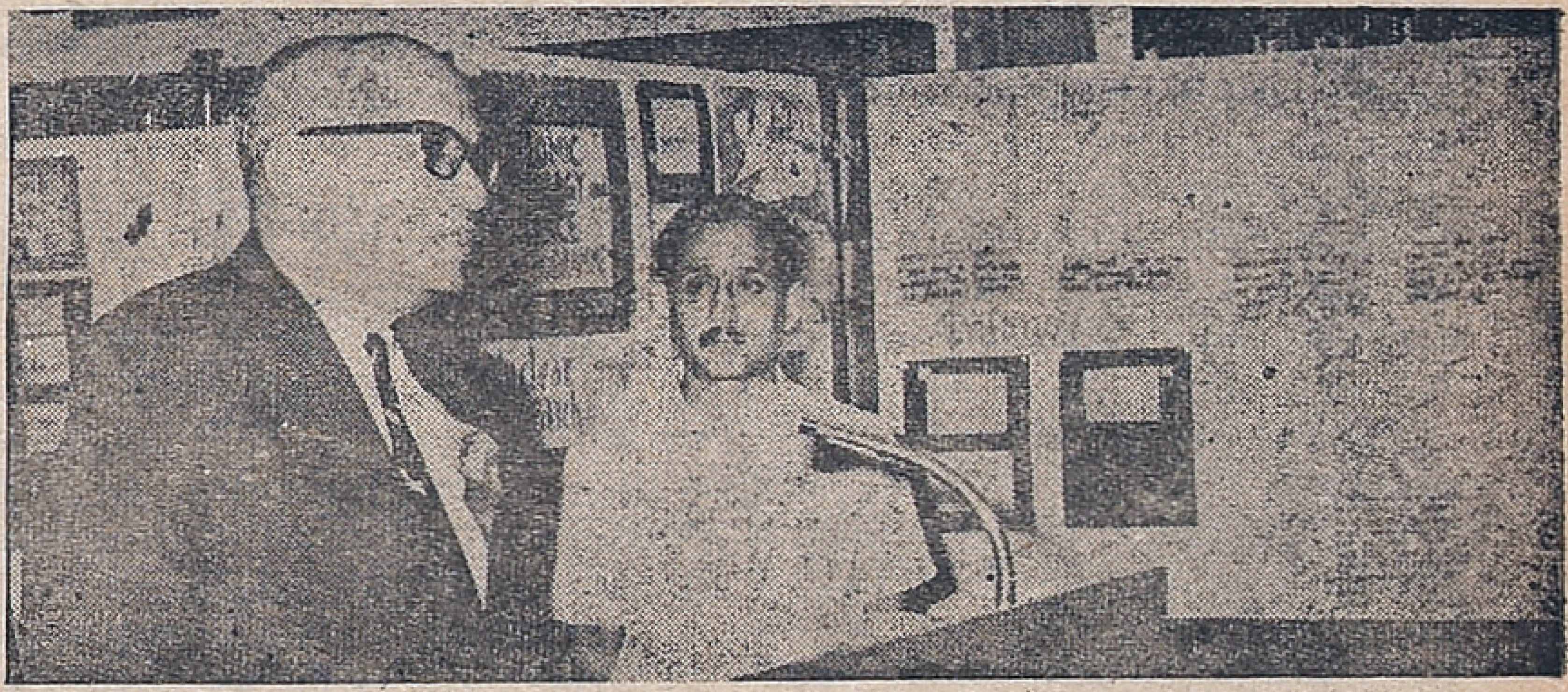
Mrs Sarada Devi is planning to have the exhibition shortly at the Memorial Hall, Madras.

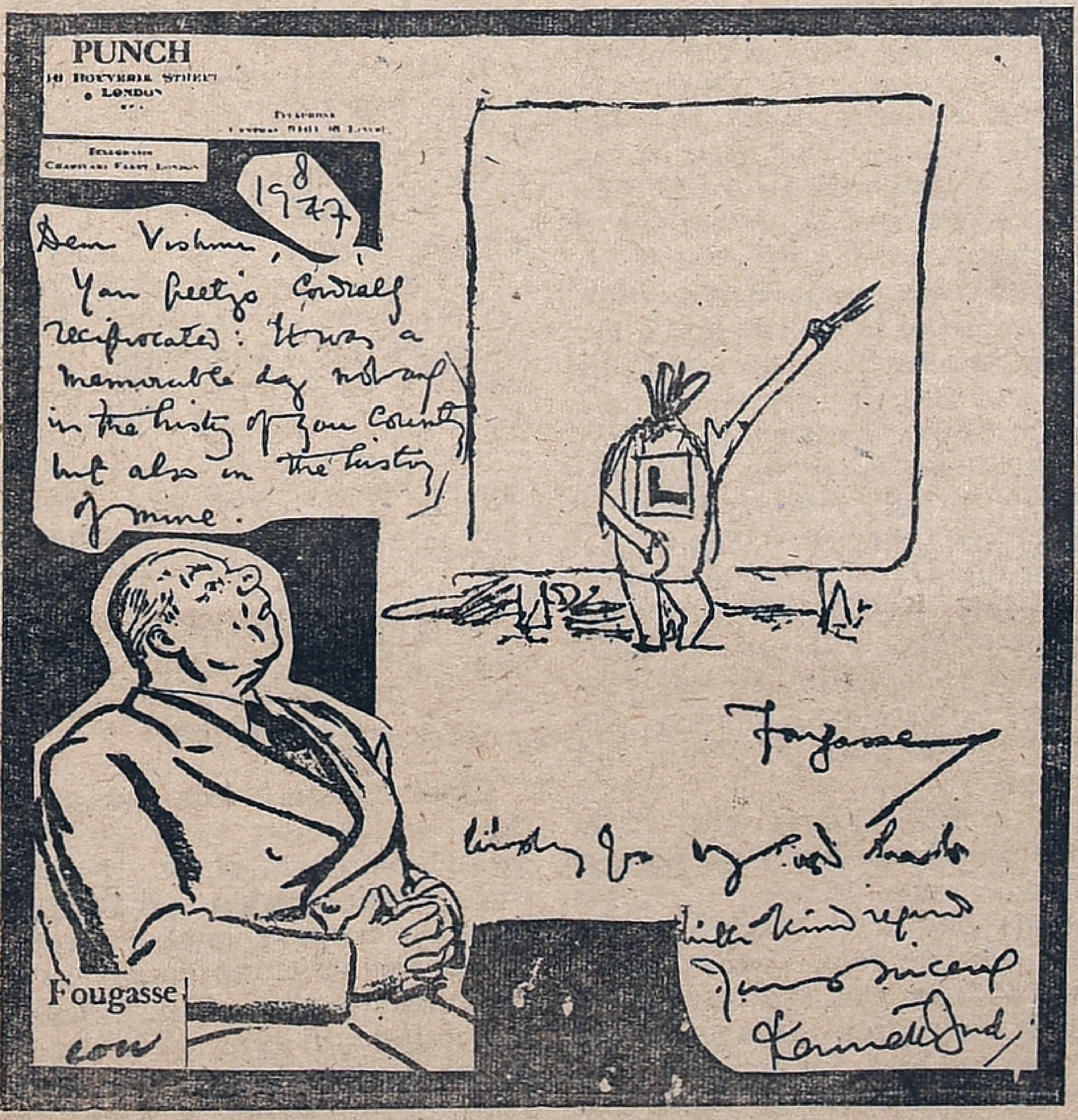
—A. ARUMUGAM.

Governor Shah is 68



It is quite difficult to believe that Tamil Nadu Governor K. K. Shah is 68. He is so active and energetic. Many called on him to greet him on his birth day. Picture above shows press photographer Arumugam greeting the Governor. Governor's son, Prakash, looks on.





Vishnu By "Fougasse" (Edilor of PUNCH) and "Fougasse" by David Low. The late "Fougasse" (Kenneth Bird) was one of Britain's greatest cartoonists.

Some Comments On Vishnu's Cartoons

Mr. M. Ananthanarayanan, I. C. S., former Chief Justice of Madras High Court, who inaugurated an exhibition of Vishnu's cartoons some years ago, wrote to him recently thus:

"I am happy to learn that there is to be a celebration of the 20 years period of Dr. Vishnu Sarma's activity as a cartoonist. This is not merely a minor form of the fine arts as some people imagine. It requires not merely mastery of the technique, for a good cartoonist signs himself all over his picture, but also ironical detachment and wit that can be enjoyed without wounding anyone. I have derived pleasure from Dr. Sarma's cartoons."

* * *

The late Kulapathi K. M. Munshi once sent Vishnu this message: 'I hope the public will appreciate the value of your work."

* * *

Mr Joseph John, Director, Rajendra Prasad Institute of Communication Studies, in his letter of Oct 28 to Vishnu who is completing 20 yaars of cartooning says:

"I am very happy to learn that you are completing 20 years of cartoon drawing. I am one of many who have enjoyed several of your cartoons. I have also been able to use several of them in our own journals, Alpha Communications Monthly and Alpha News Digest.

"Cartoons in our newspapers are the one feature that even their worst critics cannot afford to ove look. We seldom react to them in any manner other than relishing them. Indeed they are always the first to catch the reader, attention in so far as they point to some frailty or some laughable attribute or view of a situation, utterance or happening. Some of your cartoons have delighted me immensely in the manner in which you handled pieces of news, with resultant delight and increased understanding."

Fifty Eighth Anniversary of The October Socialist Revolution

Struggle for Peace Grows Wider & Stronger

The changes won by the forces of peace over the past five years are of a truly world-historic character. The stubborn struggle waged by the Vietnamese people against imperialist aggression has been victoriously concluded, important agreements have been achieved on security and cooperation in Europe, and Soviet-US relations as well as economic, scientific technical and cultural cooperation between countries with different social systems, are developing favourably.

These positive changes reflect a new balance of forces in the world, the growing might of world socialism. They are also a result of the determined anti-imperialist struggle conducted by peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The present situation in the World objectively calls for a further intensification of the struggle for peace and for exposure of fresh manoeuvres by the enemies of detente. One would think the All European Conference has produced a highly favourable atmosphere for resolving complicated problems connected with the cessation of the arms race, reduction of military budgets and elimination of existing seats of war.

Positive shifts in the development of contemporary international relations by no means relax peace efforts; on the contrary, they demand that the struggle for peace be stepped up. Strengthening detente, making it irreversible, supplementing political detente by military detente are urgent tasks which call for new initiatives and for work on a larger scale.

There can be no lasting peace without the discontinuation of the arms race. It is estimated that the armaments production costs mankind some 250 billion dollars every year. Threatening the security of peoples, the arms drive at the same time prevents the solution of urgent social problems and hinders the successful struggle of the working class and the trade unions for the vital interests of the working people. Various forums of public forces are increasingly often raising the question of the urgent need for reconverting the war industries to civilian production.

The historic offensive of the peoples in defence of peace is mounting and gaining momentum.

Economic Dynamism of Advanced Socialism

By Prof. L. ABALKIN, Ph. D. (Economics)

The Soviet Union has built up an advanced socialist society, the inevitability of which was sagaciously predicted by V. I. Lenin. It is characterised by a greatly increased scale of social production, a considerable improvement of the life of the people, the development of the scientific and technological revolution, the shifting of the centre of gravity to intensive, qualitative factors of growth, and the further intensification of the social homogeneity of society.

The following facts and figures show how far the country has advanced from the initial stage when the material and technical basis of socialism was being built up for the first time: The USSR produced 975 000 million kwh of electricity in 1974 compared to 307 000 million kwh in the course of the three prewar Five-Year-Plan periods taken together. The figures corresponding in oil are 451 million tons in 1974 and 307 million tons in 1928 1940; in mineral fertilisers, 80.3 million tons and 23 5 million tons (in conventional units); in cars, 1, 119,000 and 120,000

The line of the economic policy, drawn up by the Party, is for a substantial rise in the living standards of the people. It defines not only the main task of the current, Ninth Five-Year Plan, but also the long-term development of the national economy. This policy is based on public ownership of the means of production, the establishment of which put an end to class antagonisms and led to the setting up of a socially homogeneous society, a society of working people. The community of interests of friendly classes and all social strata and groups, and the leading role of the working class guarantee political stability in the country.

In keeping with the decisions of the 23 d and 24th Congresses of the Party, the Soviet economy doubled its production potential in less than ten years. Industrial output doubled while farm output rose by 33 per cent. The consistant realisation of the startegic course aimed at the further improvement of the living standards made it possible to raise real per capita incomes by 1.6 times. During all the years, full employment was ensured and a stable retail price level was retained.

High rates of scientific and technological progress are a typical feature of economic dynamism. A powerful scientific potential has been created in the Soviet Union.

The further progress of socialist society directly depends on the development of the creativity and initiative of the working masses. Their broad enlistment in the management of the economy and of all public affairs is one of the basic principles of the political system of socialism. The new upsurge in the countrywide socialist emulation movement for a worthy meeting of the 25th Congress of the CPSU provides a striking demonstration of the growing activity of the masses.

V. I. LENIN

USSR-India Cooperation Grows Stronger

M. NEPESOV

As the co-sponsor of the historic Bandung conference, which supported the principles of peaceful coexistence, India won international prestige by its decisive actions against colonialism and racism.

It is only too natural that India's policy meets with profound understanding in the Soviet Union. The identity of views between the two countries on a number of issues has led to the development of close relations between the two countries.

Dozens of industrial and other projects have been or are being built in the public sector of India with Soviet assistance. These include not only metallurgical plants, but also engineering enterprises, power stations, coal mines, oil extraction enterprises, oil-processing plants, instrument-making enterprises, antibiotics and pharmaceutical factories underground railway, the first of its kind in India, and others.

The USSR does not claim participation either in the ownership or management of these enterprises or in sharing profits brought by them. Indian organisations are the full masters of these enterprises. It is important to stress that cooperation between our countries is equal and mutually advantageous in the full sense of the term. India pays for the credits received and for the deliveries of industrial equipment for projects being built by cooperative efforts.

The picture of Soviet-Indian cooperation would be incomplete if we did not mention our trade and such an important matter as manpower training. According to the Indian press, the current year is characterised by a considerable increase in trade between our countries. This trade is expected to reach about 7 500 million rupees, 1,000 million rupees more than last year. Today the Soviet Union holds first place in India's exports and second in its imports. The products of national industry account for over half of India's exports to our country. More than 5,000 Indian foremen, engineers and workers underwent training at the short-term schools operated by the projects built by joint Soviet-Indian efforts, studied in Soviet colleges or worked in the USSR.

Close Soviet-Indian cooperation, which now rests on the solid foundation of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, received a mighty impetus for further development as a result of the visit of L. I. Brezhnev to India in 1973. The documents signed during the visit raised Soviet-Indian relations to a higher level. What is typical of our cooperation now is not only its increased scale but also its long-term character.

The Underlying Factor Behind The Progress of Soviet Society

By K. YANBUKHTIN

The interest that people all over the world take in the land of Soviets, which for 57 years already—since November 1917—has been building a new, classless society, is quite legitimate. People want to know what power has put this, once backward, peasant-dominated country with almost 100 per cent illiteracy among the highly developed states (only in 50 years—from 1922 to 1972—its industrial output grew 105 times.)

This power is socialism. This new social system possesses the energy which has accelerated the Soviet Union's development.

In our days the Soviet Union, is the world's largest country territorially (22.4 million square kilometres), third in terms of population (252 million), second to the United States in the national income and industrial and agricultural output, first in out put of many types of industrial goods, particularly, coal, ore, metals, cement, tractors, harvesters fabrics, and also in the number of students, doctors, researchers, etc.

The successes recorded by the Soviet people would have been still greater if it had not been for one year of imperialist unleashed war or rehabilitation of the war-ravaged national economy per each 1.5. years of peaceful development in Soviet times.

What is remarkable about socialism as a social system? What qualitative distinctions does it have in comparison with capitalism? What benefits does it offer man?

Socialism has ended exploitation of man by man, guaranteed the right to work and equality in all political and social rights, as well as equality of men and women and people of different nationalities, made cultural values accessible to the mass of the population, and set the stage for all-round harmonious development of the individual—intellectual, moral and physical.

Every Soviet citizen knows that his work, his abilities, his energy will always find a worthy application and appreciation. He is sure that his children will receive an education. He knows that society will never leave him to face the trouble alone in case of illness or loss of ability to work that his old age will be provided for. Such confidence is offered by socialism.

It is pertinent to ask: what determines the social standing of the Soviet citizen? The answer is: only his work determines the value of the individual in the Soviet Union and, consequently, his position in society. This stems from the very nature of the socialist state, where power belongs to the toilers.

Another major principle of socialist society, is that nobody can live at the expense of others in the Soviet Union. Therefore personal work pre-determines man's material situation. Everything depends on the amount and quality of the work he does, his skill and industry, on the social value of his work.

The Soviet Union fully realises the socialist principle "From each according to his abilities, to each according to his work". This fundamental principle is recorded in the Soviet Constitution (Article 12).

Now the Soviet worker or farmer cannot always be told from the performer of mental work: more than half of them have higher or secondary (complete, 10-year, or incomplete, 8-year) education. The cinema, radio and especially television, which now extend to 80 per cent of the population, have put within the reach of rural areas cultural values which once were within the reach of urban dwellers alone.

There is a detailed discussion of the role of the intelligentsia in Soviet society and of the conditions of life and labour of the Soviet Union's 30 million mental workers, of whom more than a million, or one-quarter of all world's scientists and scholars, are researchers.

Socialism has emancipated the woman. Now, she occupies a worthy place in Soviet society.

It is relevant to recall here the remarkable words of A. Bebel, a well-known investigator of the women's question, that the level of society's civilisation can be judged by the position of woman in her society. In pre revolutionary Russia, 55 per cent of the women who did hired jobs were housemaids and 35 per cent did farm work for landlords. Very few women from the grass roots could read and write. The lot of the peasant woman was the hardest.

Is there unemployment in the Soviet Union? Unemployment in the Soviet Union was ended in 1930, when the country closed its last labour exchange. Complete employment in the soviet Union stems from the character of its national economy, which develops on a planned basis, knows no crises or recessions and progresses faster than the country's able-bodied population increase.

The essence of democracy is the exercise of power. Who wields power in the Soviet Union? The present USSR Supreme Soviet—the highest organ of state power—numbers 1,517 deputies, among them 763 workers and collective farmers

Socialist democracy, besides proclaiming the rights and freedoms of the working people, creates a material base for their implementation. For instance, proclaiming in its Constitution the right to work as the major right of the Soviet citizen, the socialist state has done and is doing all it can to guarantee to each Soviet citizen work in accordance with his vocation and skill.

Mikhail Kalinin: First President Of USSR

[November 19,1975 marks the Birth Centenary of the first President of the Soviet Union]

"Mikhail Ivanovich Kalinin," the tsarist police files say, "is a social-democrat (Bolshevik) and Leninist. Has broad contacts with the intelligentsia. Very popular among the workers. Spoke at meetings many times, and called for strikes. A Good speaker and propagandist".

This "good speaker and propagandist" was a turner of high qualifications. On leaving his village, he worked in large shops and at factories for 20 years, in the cities.

Kalinin learned the act of organized struggle against the exploiters at an early age. He found the way to underground Marxist groups and organized several of them himself. True, he had to pay a high price for this science. For 20 years prior to the revolution of 1917 Kalinin was cast into prison 14 times and exiled.

CHAIRMAN OF C. E. C.

Kalinin became President of the Soviet state on March 30, 1919. To be more precise, his post corresponded to that of President, although it was called Chairman of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee (VTSIK). Now it is the Persidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

A month after his assignment to the high post, Kalinin left by a special propagandist train "October Revolution" on his first trip round the country. Possibly, he did not guess then that in the next few years there would be no end to these trips which earned Kalinin's administration the name of "VTsIK on Wheels".

From the cities he made large rounds of the villages, and heard the requests and wishes of the peasants. He resolved most of the questions on the spot. If there was something he could not do, he explained openly and honestly the reason why.

On finishing his first series of trips over the country, Kalinin reported to a session of the VTsIK:

"The most brief and superficial survey of the Russian Soviet Republics has led us to the conviction that Soviet power is becoming stronger, and the realization of its need is growing among the masses of workers and peasants. In the provinces this process is particularly clearly observed".

V. I. Lenin considered that the strengthening of Soviet power in the localities depended largely on the work done by Mikhail Kalinin—a very popular and accessible President.

THE POSSIBILITIES

The work of the Soviets—from the Village and City to the highest Soviets in the republic—were of great importance and in

KALININ

writing he proved that the Soviets were the place for the application of social forces, for broad state-government on the part of the workers and peasants.

In his "Letter to the Peasants on the Re Election to the Soviets," Kalinin expressed this idea as follows:

"A peasant by himself has no power. But in the Soviet he is a representative of the masses. His voice is not the voice of Ivan or Pyotr but the voices of all the peasants who delegated him to the Soviet."

Mikhail Kalinin died on June, 3, 1946. He spent his last spring in the Crimea. He would not give in to his ailment. The doctors wondered where this mortally ill and suffering man found the strength to read the news and attend to business daily, even to joke with the Young Pioneers of the neighbouring Artek Camp.

Fairy Tale

THE GRAIN OF SAND

By ILYA SHURKO

Once upon a time in the desert there lived a Grain of Sand. It was very small, smaller than a grain of millet. All day long it did nothing but bask in the sun. It thought of the whole world as one large desert in the centre of which grew a tall Palm Tree which supported the sky on its boughs.

"Is it true, Madam," the Grain of Sand asked one day, "that you support the sky on your boughs?"

"Can't you see for yourself?" the Palm sighed. "Look how cracked my bark is from the strain and how deep into the sand my roots reach."

"But can't you lower the sky onto the earth and rest a little?" suggested the Grain of Sand sympathetically.

"Once I did so,' answered the Palm, swaying her long branches. "Only many of the stars were lost among the sand. In mountains the sky was torn to shreds, and over the sea it divided into two parts, and one still lies on the bottom so that you can easily see it when the weather is good."

"But what are mountains and the sea?' exclaimed the Grain in bewilderment.

"Look and see!" came the answer.

But it did no come from the Palm, it was the whistling of the Wind. The Wind swept a cloud of sand up to the very sky, and the Grain felt itself carried aloft over the earth. For a long time the little Grain of Sand flew over towns and villages. Towards evening thousands of bright lights appeared along their streets, and the Grain decided that these were the little stars which the Palm had once lost. Soon the Grain reached the mountains: Over their summits clouds were swirling, lightning flashed and thunder growled.

"The Palm told me the truth; indeed the sky here is torn into shreds," the Grain of Sand thought, and flew on.

Soon the clouds grew sparcer, and then they disappeared altogether, and the little Grain saw another sky below.

"It's the sea, the sea!" it exclaimed.

It continued to fly over the sea for a long time until at last it landed on the opposite shore. The shore was a sandy or so it seemed to our Grain. But it was no ordinary sand. Tiny little diamonds and garnets, topazes and agates, turquoises and pieces of amber shone and sparkled around, washed by the lapping waves.

"Look, a new one has joined us!" a little Turquoise nearby exclaimed. "But how clumsy it is, not at all clear and transparent. You can see at once that it's not a precious stone."

"More likely it's made of brown quartz or black limestone," a tiny Diamond proclaimed.

A small salt crystal joined the discussion: "Judging from all appearances it's made of hydrogen."

"Indeed I am not, what a thing to say," the Grain of Sand said offended. "I've come from the desert. I'm going to take a dip and fly back."

Meanwhile the tide began to ebb, and carried the little traveller out into the sea. The water sparkled with soft emerald light, and the little fish, like so many sunbeams, flickered around the Grain of Sand, urging it on further away from the shore with their tails. At the bottom of the sea lived little shell fish who never came out of their shells. They only opened them to greet one another. The Grain of Sand bumped into one of them and scratched its tender body. The annoyed Shell Fish clamped its shell tight, and the Grain found itself in darkness and very uncomfortable.

"I'm not to blame for being so scratchy," protested the Grain. "If I had such smooth bark as the Palm ......"

The Shell Fish took pity on the Grain and began enveloping it in a smooth white covering. The Grain of Sand grew and grew: at first it was like a grain of rice then it grew as big as a pea, and finally as large as a bean. It felt warm and comfortable in its new clothes.

"I ought to go home," the Grain of Sand said one day. "I'm sure the palm is anxious about my fate"

A shell fish does not swim. But the wind stirred up the sea and a wave carried the Shell Fish on to the shores. The shell opened, and the Grain jumped out.

A little girl, the daughter of a fisherman, happened to wandering about the shore that morning.

"What a beautiful little palm Tree!" the Grain of Sand thought. It had never seen people before. "What a supple pair of boughs it has on its trunk, and what fine wavy leaves bend from its crown almost to the very ground. Alas, she is sure to laugh at me as the precious stones did before."

But the little girl did not laugh. She stretched her bough-hand, picked up the Grain of Sand from down below. "It's a real pearl."

"The most beautiful pearl on our shore", the little girl said softly.

"The most beautiful in the whole world," the Wind said more softly still, and flew off.

THE STORY TELLERS

Geoffrey Chaucer

About the time that Chaucer was writing "The Book of the Duchess" he undertook a number of diplomatic missions abroad for the king and made his first trip to Italy. It was the source of great inspiration for the young poet to visit Florence and discover the works of Dante.

Chaucer's success as a diplomat led to a permanent post in the Customs service and a London house, which gave the young couple their first real home. Now they could raise a family away from the artificiality of the court and Chaucer spread out his precious books and read and wrote in every free moment.

The poet must have been moved by the sight of the handsome 10-year-old Richard II riding through the streets in his coronation procession in 1377, and loyally entered his service. But Richard turned out to be a spendthrift with bad advisers and troubled years lay ahead for England.

Throughout them, in spite of his own ups and downs and the horrors of the Peasants' Revolt, Chaucer worked away patiently at his writing. He was a genial man who loved people, mixed easily with all classes and liked to wander the streets and countryside talking to everyone he met.

(To be Concluded)

FUN AND LAUGHTER

ADMISSION

One of the witnesses in a lawsuit was a woman, somewhat *passe*, but covered with jewels. She had dyed hair, was hopelessly over-dressed in an effort to conceal the ravages of implacable time. Asked her age, she replied calmly: "Twenty-six." The magistrate raised his eyebrows.

"Twenty six? But I should have thought .. What year were you born?"

"Nineteen hundred," admitted the witness reluctantly.

"Oh, very well," said the magistrate, and turning to the clerk of the court, "Put 'founded in 1900, restored 1921."

* * *

ESSENTIAL

Bureaucrat: "And is this telephone you've applied for essential, Miss!"

Indignant Girl: 'Of course it's essential! I want a telephone to make dates, and get married and have children with!"

* * *

GERMS

A lady driver narrowly escaped running into a bath chair containing a seedy old gent. To the person pulling it she bellowed: "Where are you going to."

"Wheeling a bunch of germs round the town," answered the weary attendant.

* *

HORESY

Affable individual in railway carriage, doing his best to make conversation with horesy looking bloke. "So you're a racehorse trainer eh! That's funny. I'm in the same sort of business meself Performin' mice."

* * *

TICKLISH QUESTION

Johnnie, came running in from play the other day and asked: "Mother, is the devil a man?"

And, not wishing him to associate the divil with men, she answered: 'No, he is much, much wrose than a man." Still confused, he asked: "Do you mean that he is a woman?"

* * *

THE SEAT

A new pastor was delivering unusually short sermons. When a man commented on their brevity to his friend who didn't like hard chruch pews he pondered a bit then drawled:

"That preacher knows what he's doing. The mind can absorb only as much as the seat can endure."

* * *

RUNNING

At the Hollywood Canteen, an actress was talking to a sailor who had just returned to the States after 27 months in lonely Pacific outposts. "I'll bet that right now there's nothing but pictures of beautiful girls running through your mind," she said.

"Yep," was his response, "they don't dare walk."

* * *

SUCCESS TIP

The proprietor of a highly successful optical shop was instructing his son as to how to charge a customer.

"Son" he said, "after you have fitted the glasses, and he asks what the charge will be, you say: 'The charge is 10 dollars,' then pause and wait to see if he flinches. If the customer does'nt flinch, you then say 'For the frames; the lenses will be another 10 dollars."

"Then you pause again, this time only slightly and watch for the flinch. If the customer doesn't flinch this time, you say, firmly. 'Each."

* * *

KNOCKED DOWN!

A man went to the auction of a circus intent upon buying a particular parrot, the gaudiest of all. Bidding mounted surprisingly and the parrot was "knocked down" to him at £ 35—more money than he had in his pocket.

* *

RECIPROCAL

Teacher (on eve of vacation): "Well I hope you all have a good holiday and come back to school with more sense in your heads."

Boy: "Same to you, Sir"

FOUND OUT

The day before a big college game a bombshell burst on the coach with the dean's announcement that the star player had been disqualified. The coach hurried to the dean to ask why.

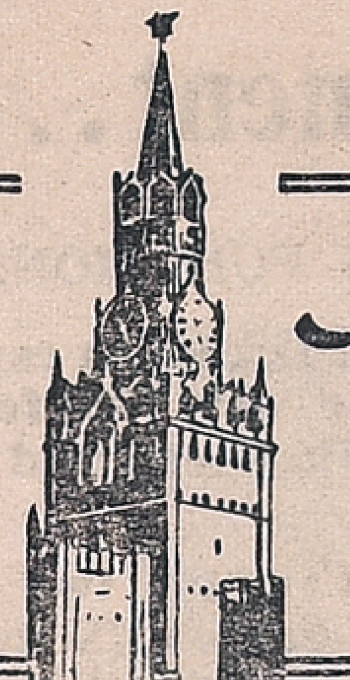
The dean said, "We caught him cheating yesterday."

"I don't believe my player would cheat," the coach blustered. What evidence do you have?

"The star athlete sat right across from the star student. When their exam papers were compared, it was found the two were identical on the first nine questions."

"But," said the coach, "that doesn't prove anything. Maybe the player crammed."

"I can answer that best," said the dean, "by the manner in which they replied to the last question. The A student wrote: 'I don't know.' The player wrote: 'I don't know either."



Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

INDIA'S OIL RESOURCES

The magazine SELSKAYA ZHIZN in its issue dated October 30 carries an article by V. Baikov who says "the commercial development of new off-shore oil deposits will permit India considerably to reduce its dependence on oil imports and save significant sums in foreign exchange which will be used for the expansion of other branches of the national economy".

For decades, he notes, leading western specialists were categorically telling that India had very little oil deposits and that any search for it was a hopeless matter. These pessimistic conclusions were belied by Soviet geologists. In the course of ten years, they together with their Indian counter-parts have discovered thirty oil and gas deposits suitable for commercial exploitation enabling India to raise its annual oil output to eight million tons, says the author.

It may be recalled that at present on the Western coast of India, a sixth well is already being prepared for exploitation. The press has reported that oil gushed from a well drilled in the continental shelf of the eastern coast recently.

ECONOMIC AID TO VIETNAM

The Soviet Union will render aid to Vietnam in the restoration and development of its national economy in 1976-80 by granting it credit on easy terms and also various kinds of industrial, building and agricultural equipment, machinery, means of transportation, metal, oil products, cotton, food and other commodities.

This is contained in the Soviet-Vietnamese declaration, signed by Leonid Breznev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Le Duan, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Workers' Party, on the conclusion of the visit of the Party and Government delegation of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to the USSR.

BUSINESSMEN

Business was bad for two barbers in a small Midwest town, so one razorwielder put up a sign in his window; "100 per cent American." Business picked up immdiately.

A few days latter, the rival barber spotted a sign in his window: "200 per cent American" Business shifted in the higher bidder's favour. That was more than the 100 per center couuld stand. He rushed over to see his competitor.

"Hey, Joe," he cried, "What do you mean by putting that 200 per cent sign up and robbing all my trade? What do you mean you're a 200 per cent American?"

"I'll tell you," the second barber said. "If you're a 100 per cent American—then you hate Negroes, Jews, and Catholics. But me, I'm a 200 per cent American—I hate the whole human race."

* * *

BLACK CAT

Oliver. "Is it true that it's bad luck to have a black cat follow you?"

Billy: 'Depends on whether you're a man or a mouse."

* * *

SHREWD

Justice Otto Rosalsky of New York recalled a case he had before him involving an East Side youth who had robbed a loft of 30 bales of silk.

The young man's lawyer, a notoriously shrewd trader, went to the judge and pleaded: "Your honour, it was the boy's first offence. If he paid for the silk, would you not agree, and would not the plaintiff agree, to let him off this one time?"

The court held counsel with the plaintiff, magnanimously agreed to the lawyer's plea.

'Thank you, your Honor, thank you!" the lawyer acknowledged And then he added: "And now, your Honor, what are you going to give us off for cash?"

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From page 3

The Indian Parliament...

powers for the governance of the country. Under the Indian Indep ndence Act, 1947 the then existing Central legislature was abolished and the Constituent Assembly meant for framing Constitution was also asked to function as a dominion legislature. The functions of the Assembly as a Constitution making body and legislature were separated. The draft Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950. Under the provisions of the Constitution, the Constitu nt Assembly became the pro visional Parliament of India and it act d as such, till the first General Elections were held in 1952 on the basis of adult franchise.

PRESENT SET UP

The Parliament today is bicameral, consisting of the President and two Houses of Parliament known as the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and the House of People (Lok Sabha). The strength of the Rajya Sabha is fixed at a maximum of 250 members, 12 of whom are nominated by the P esident for their special knowledge or practical experience in the fields of lit ra-ture, science, art and social service. The remaining seats are allocated to various States and Union Territories in proportion to their population. The electorate of the Rajya Sabha consists of the members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States. The Rajya Sabha is not subjected to dissolution but one third of its members retire every second year.

The Lok Sabha is constituted by direct election on the basis of adult franchise with maximum membership of 525 The elec ed strength is distributed among States in such a way that the ratio between the number of seats allotted to each State and the population of the State is practically the same for all States. Normal life of the Lok Sabha is five years. The period could be extended by Parliament by law, by proclamation of emerg ncy, for a period not exceeding one year at a time and not exceeding, in any case, beyond a period of six months after the proclamation has ceased to operate.

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ITS FUNCTIONS

The first Lok Sabha came into existence in May, 1952 following General Elections held in the country.

The first and the two succeeding Lok Sabhas (Second and Third) were dissolved after completing the full five years term. The fourth had a life of only about four years and was dissolved by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister on Dec mber 27, 1970. After the premature dissolution of the fourth Lok Sabha mid-term elections were held in March, 1971. These involved a total electorate of about 274 million as against 173 million in the first general election held in 1952. The Fifth Lok Sabha was constituted in March 1971.

Like other Parliamentary democracies, Parliament in India has three cardinal functions—legislation, check over the executives and ventilation of grievances. The Parliament can under certain circumstances assume legislative power over a subject falling within the State's sphere. It may legislate on matters included in the State list if the Rajya Sabha declares by a two-third majority that it is necessary and expedient in the national interest to do so. It also acquires power to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in the State List in times of emergency or break-down of constitutional machinery in a State. The Constitution also vests in the Union Parliament, the constituent power or the power to amend the Constitution. The procedure for amendment envisages its being passed by a special majority and in certain cases, its ratification by State legislatures. The amendment of the Constitution, sub ject to these provisions, follow practically the same legislative process as any other legislation.

In conclusion, it may be said that democracy in India has not only struck deep roots in our country but the democratic process has shown both resilience and ingenuity in tackling the manifold challenges of building up a new society and a great nation.

The successful functioning of Parliamentary government and democratic institutions in India is not a mere coincidence because, over a quarter of a century since Independence, the country has passed through pe iods of stresses and strains and successfully overcome th m. This is wholly due to the intrinsic soundness and vitality of the Indian experiment in democracy. This has been proved time and again. For example, it was the basic strength of the Constitution and the stabl ity of the democratic system in the country which made it possible for a smooth succession after the passing away of a great leader like Jawaharlal Nehru.

Again, it was the inherent strength of Indian democracy that enabled the country to withstand the critical days of the Chinese invasion in 1962 and the confrontation with Pakistan in 1965 and in 19 1 which came in the wake of a staggering influx of about 10 million refugees from Bangladesh with all its serious and attendant cons quences. Not only did the Indian people rise as one man to defend their freedom and future, but this amazing unity in purpose and action was achieved without sacrificing the democratic modes and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution. Even in the darkest days of the Chinese aggression, Parliament and the Press continued to function as vigorously as ever; there were no witch-hunts and no arbitrary infringements of individual freedom.

Considering the country's political stability and its achievements in the economic and social spheres, since Independence, it can be confidently claimed that parliamentary democracy has worked well in India, and has come to stay. Not so much because the system derives its authority from the Consti ution but because it has been able to fulfil and continues to echo the aspirations of the people at large.

Now It's Birds

In Italy, millionaires and rich people's children are not the only ones to b held for ransom. From kidnapping, criminals have now switched to stealing race horses, old master, feature films and even rare birds. A snackroom owner at Santa Maria del Piave recently had his talking blackbird stolen from him. Later, the thieves phoned him and demanded a ransom of 200,000 lire.

PROBLEM CHILD

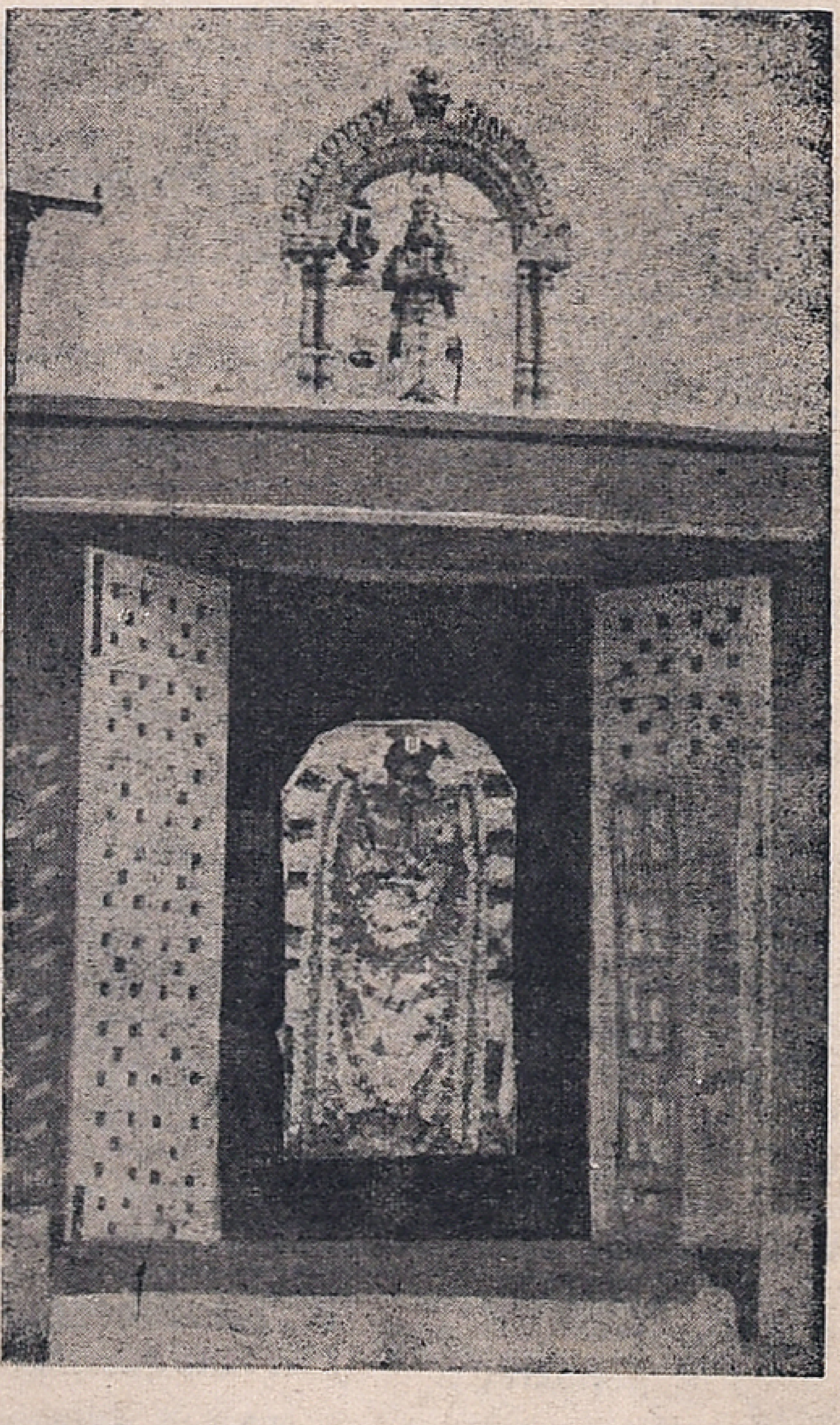
Jimmie, aged five, had learned the effective use of some profanity. His mother was at her wit's end to curb it.

He was invited to his friend John's birthday party and it seemed an opportune chance to end the problem. In Jimmie's presence, she told John's mother that he was to be sent home if he should swear.

Jimmie was scrubbed, admonished, and sent off to the party. He arrived home in 15 minutes, very angry.

"Now, what did you say?" his mother asked severely.

"I didn't say anything. The damned party is tomorrow."



The deity of Sri Hanuman at the temple at Manimangalam, about 30 Km from Madras This temple was renovated and Kumbabishekam was held in 1965 mainly due to the tireless efforts of Sri M. V. Kannan Iyengar. It is now proposed to construct a prayer hall at the temple at a cost of Rs. 20,000/-. Those interested in this worthy cause may contact Sri M. V. Kannan Iyengar at 4, Unnamalai Ammal Street, Madras – 600 017.

From page 2

teacher, but the fact that she painted in her childhood will have left its trace on her personality. It will have cultivated in her a taste for the beautiful, the ability to use beauty.

The Museum of Children's Art in Tbilisi was organised for the express purpose of teaching people to appreciate beauty from Childhood.

But why open a museum for this purpose? Because an art fund can be built through years and through children's works picked with a professional eye. Here the children's creative process can be studied, a studio for talented children opened, and lectures on aesthetics delivered to teachers and children.

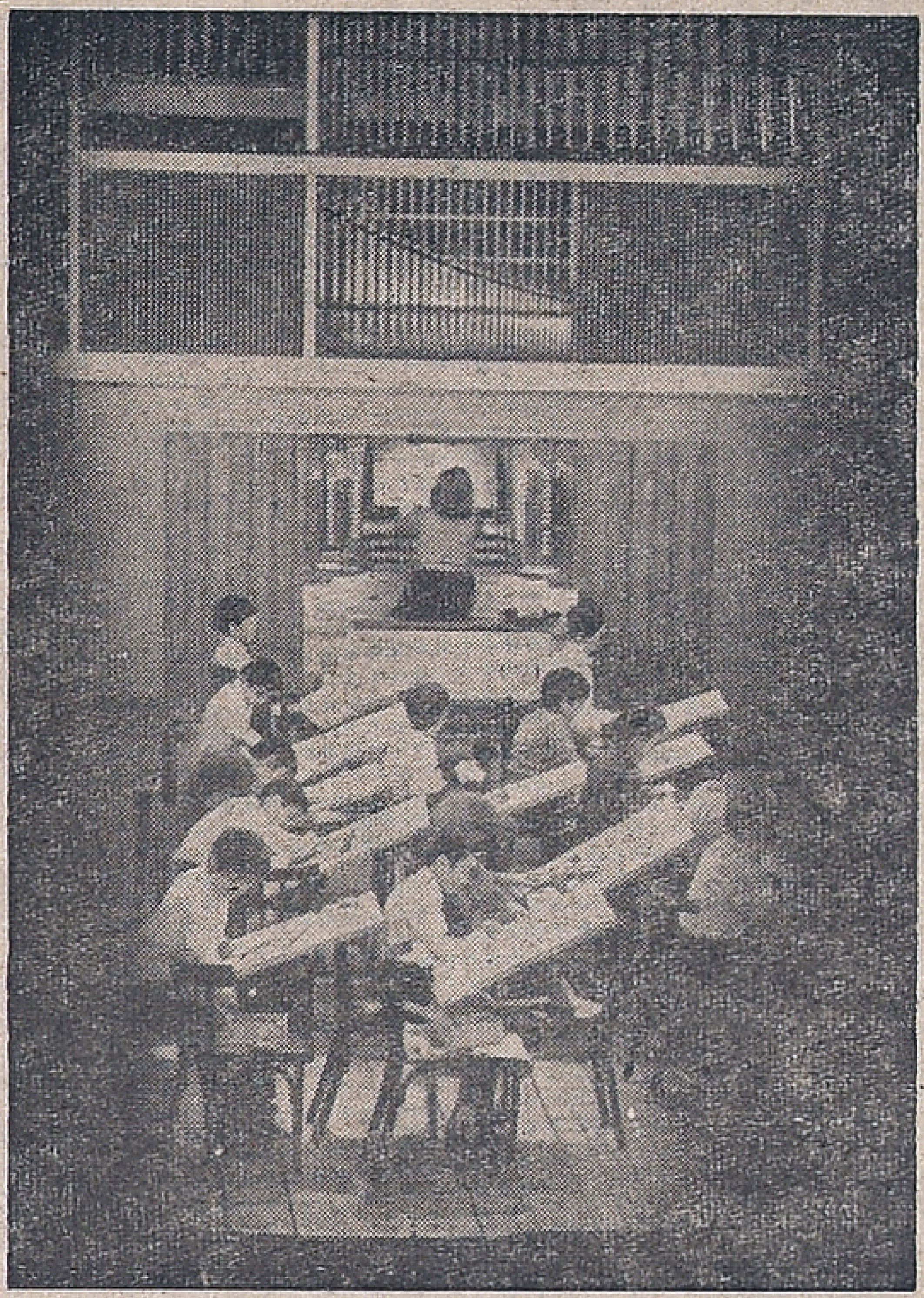
......I climbed the stairs to a well-lit semi circular room filled with drawings, sculptures, artistic woodwork, embroidered fabrics and pictures fashioned out of dried petals. Some thousand works of children between four and 12 are on display there.

Little animals, fields of poppies and daisies, red and dark blue horses, stadiums, seas and mountains, mammas and papas-all these are depicted with an emotion and humour inaccessible to the grown-up artist. That is why the Visitor's Book of this museum features such entries as:

"This is a lovely, radiant world, the loss of which, when one grows up, one cannot help deploring."

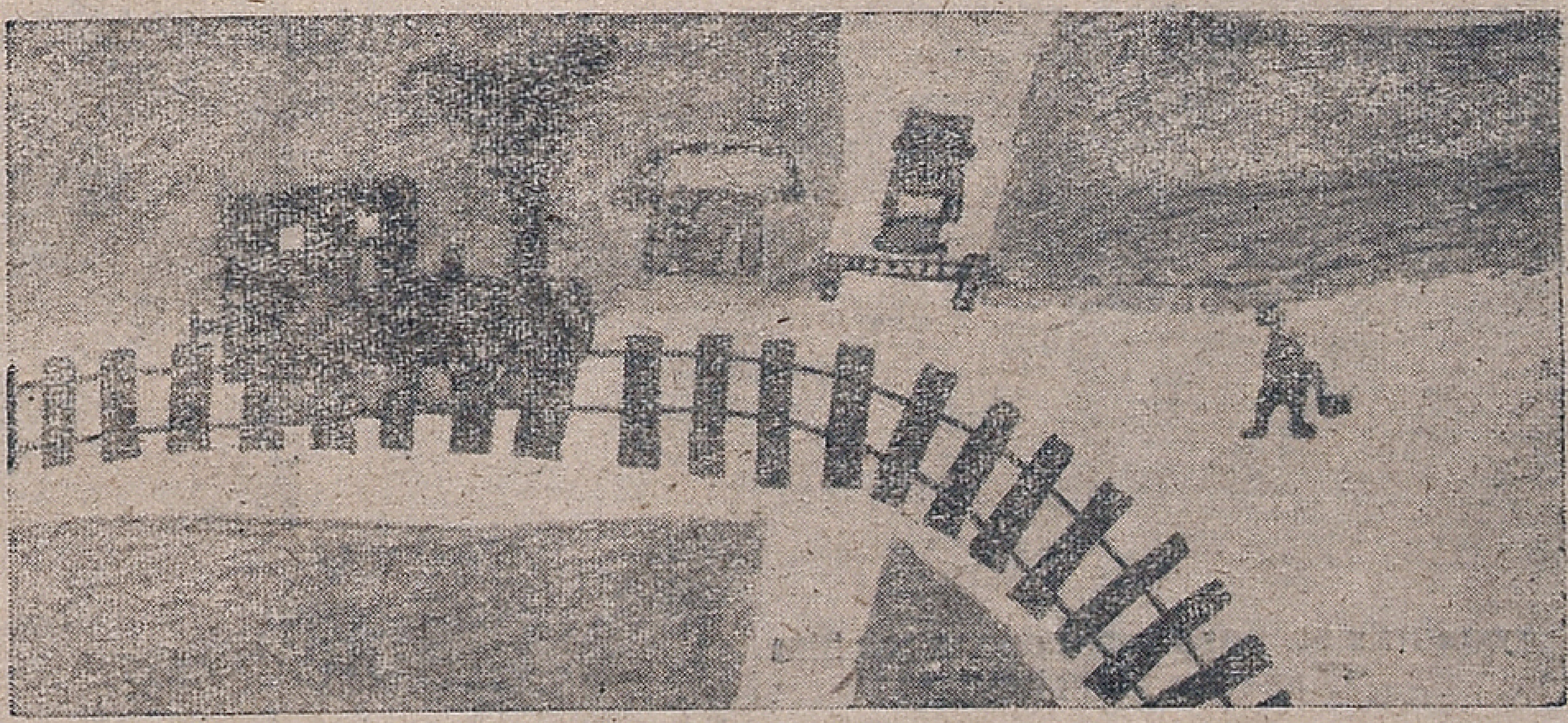
In 1974, a children's art school of a new type also opened in Tbilisi. As many as 350 children are taught there by 25 teachers to draw, paint, sculpt, work in ceramics, and knit. Histories of art and aesthetics are also included in the programme of studies. However, neither the museum nor the art school train children for a professional future, since for this there are 520 higher and secondary educational art and culture institutions. Their aim is to teach aesthetics and inculcate artistic taste.

★



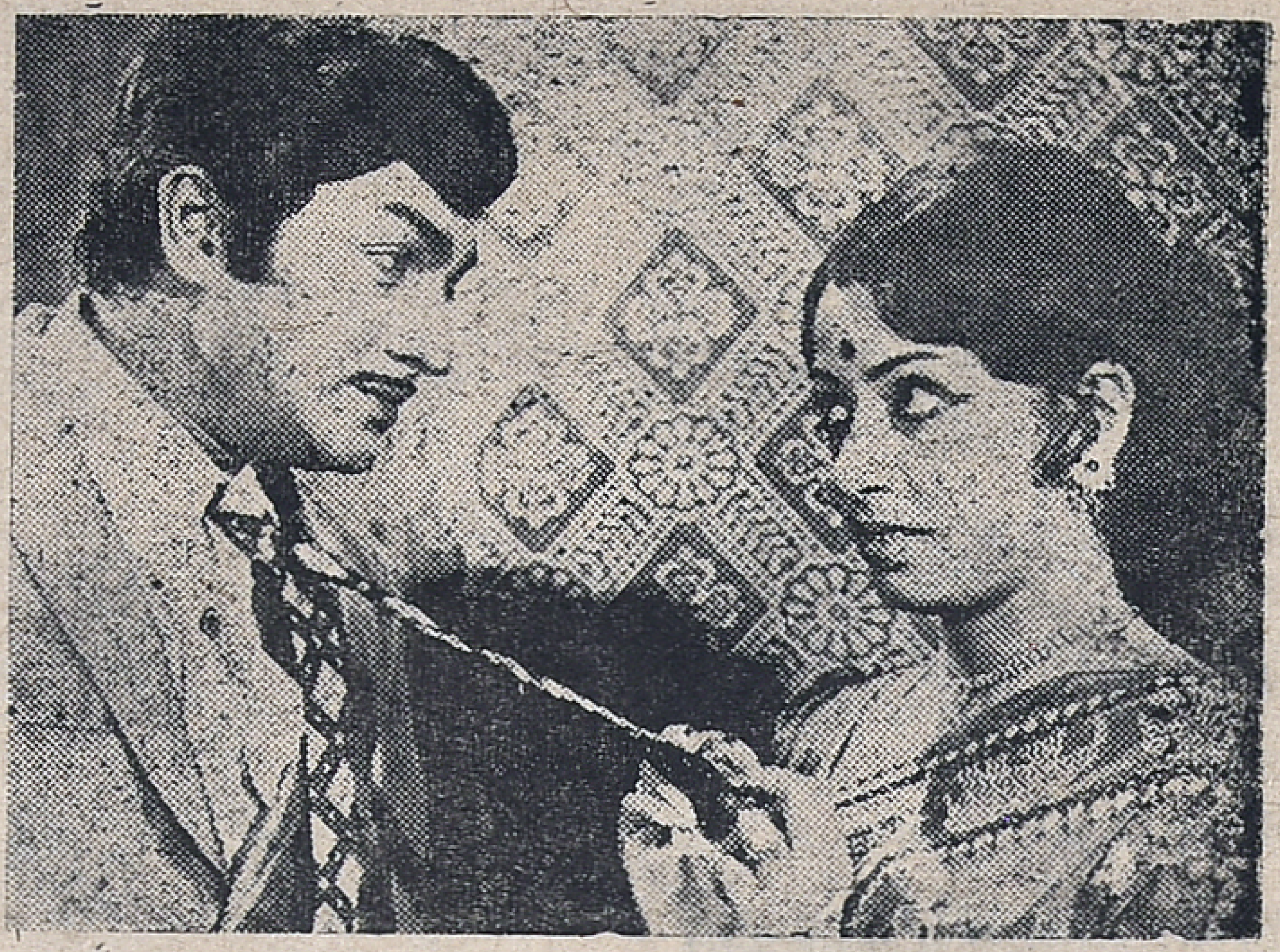
While Bach's Choral Prelude is played, the boys and girls try to reproduce the musical images in colours

"The Old Tbilisi"—a drawing by 13-year old Nino Dzhaparidze.



"A Train"—a drawing by seven-year-old Paata Tsiklauri.

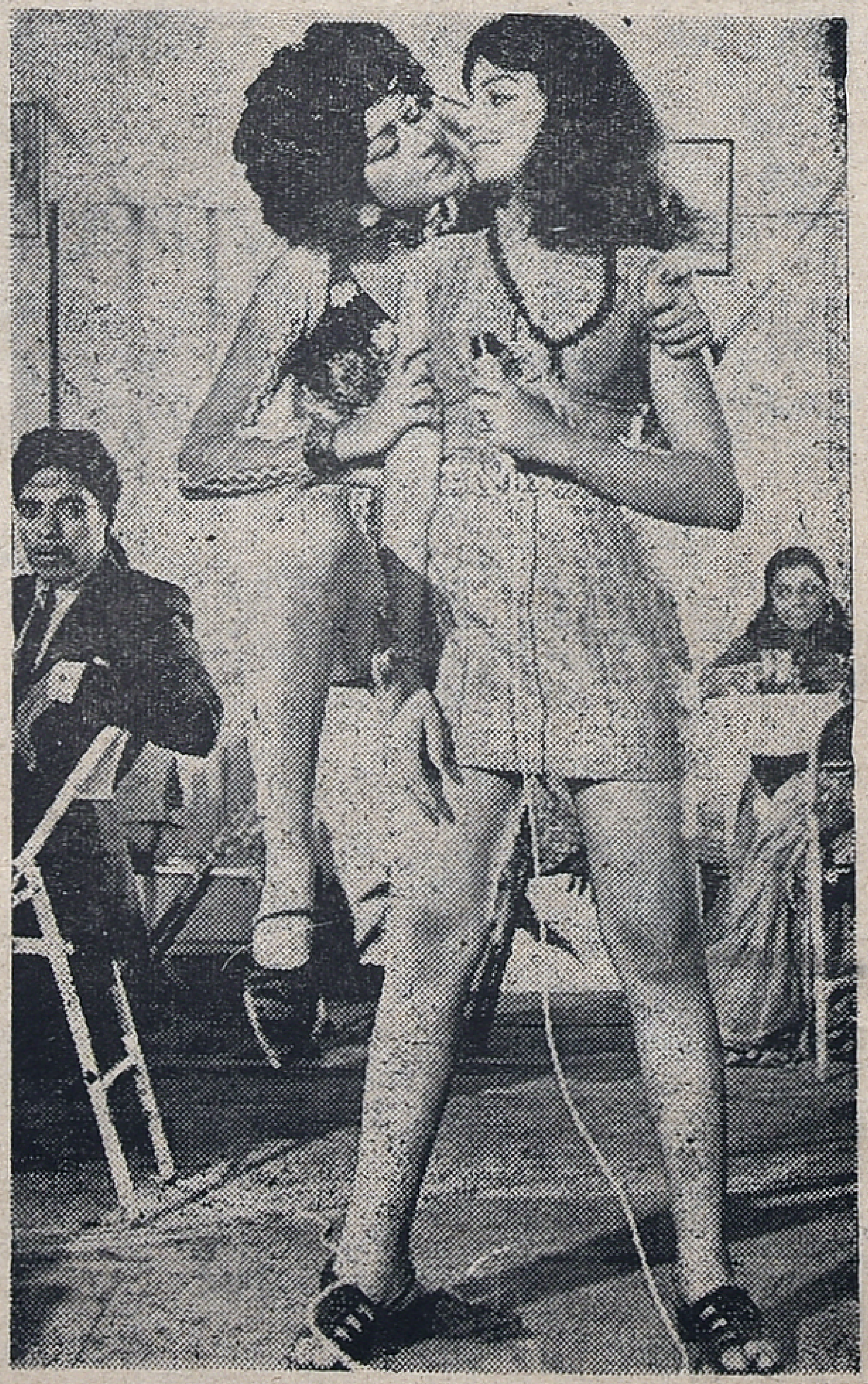
New face Deepa as she appears in the Tamil Film "Antharangam"



The producers of the film "Appove Chonnene Kettiya ?" are bold enough to give a chance to a number of new entrants. The above still shows Jaya Ganesh and Sathyapriya.

Film News In Pictures

Jayalalitha accusing some one in the film "Kanavan Manaivi."



Ragini and Ratnanjali, two new entrants to the film world, as they appear in a club dance sequence in "Appove Chonnene Kettiya ?"

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